

## REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

May 27, 2008

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Clouette, Duffy (8:15 pm), Haddad, Koehn, Nesbitt, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer

Absent: Blair

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nesbitt moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2008 meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2008 special meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Paterson requested a moment of silence in honor of and respect for our troops around the world.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

No comments

Mayor Paterson requested a motion to move Item 4, Four Corner Sewer Study, to the next item of business. Motion made by Mr. Haddad, seconded by Mr. Clouette and passed by all.

V. OLD BUSINESS

## 1. Issues Regarding the UConn Landfill

Rob Miller, Eastern Highland Health District Director, has reviewed the latest UConn Landfill Long Term Monitoring Plan and found no imminent or immediate risk to public health.

Council members discussed the ability to compare these successive plans electronically but decided that since the project is almost completed it would make more sense for the staff to make a presentation to the Council as the project draws to a close. Mr. Clouette asked the Town Manager to investigate whether or not the various consultants on the project keep a log of changes that they might be willing to share with the Town.

## 2. Community/Campus Relations, Discussion of Certain Noise Abatement Ordinances

Town Manager Matt Hart suggested reviving the Committee on Community Quality of Life or a similar committee as a forum to vet issues, conduct research and make recommendations to the whole Council. Ms. Koehn requested a public hearing on the document previously distributed by Jim Hintz, Director of Off Campus Housing, regarding the actions of other

universities. Members agreed that the Town Manager, the Mayor and Councilor Clouette would meet prior to the next meeting to develop a charge for the Committee. The Mayor asked that Council members interested in serving on the Committee let her know. Ms. Koehn expressed interest.

The Town Manager and staff will be meeting with UConn personnel to discuss Spring Weekend. The Town Manager and Mayor would also like to meet with President Hogan to hear his reaction to the weekend.

### 3. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

The UConn Water and Wastewater Policy Advisory Committee will meet next week.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

### 4. Four Corner Sewer Study Presentation

Mr. Hultgren, Director of Public Works, introduced representatives from Earth Tech Inc. who presented the defined sewer project area and the options available to the Town. Mr. Hultgren distributed an assessment worksheet that showed potential costs to the landowners and will provide additional information on financing at a subsequent Council meeting. He stated that connecting to the system is optional but if a septic system fails the landowners will not be allowed to fix it. Mr. Hultgren, with the Council's permission, will contact UConn to verify their wastewater system has adequate capacity.

### 5. Mansfield Community Center: Implementation of Management Study

Curt Vincente, Director of Parks and Recreation, answered Council questions regarding the action plan for the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the recently completed management study for the Community Center. Ms. Koehn would like to see targets for the action plan, a way to measure progress. Ms. Duffy expressed concern that charging for the teen center might have a negative effect on participation. All agreed that it is important to provide a safe and interesting environment for teens.

Council members discussed the pricing of the recreation programs and how the location of the programs might be reflected in the cost to nonmember residents. Mr. Clouette requested a comparison of Mansfield recreation program prices and other comparable towns. Ms. Koehn requested a comparison, including subsidies, of the price of a class at the Senior Center and the price of a class through the recreation program.

### 6. Estate of Dorothy Goodwin

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Clouette seconded, effective May 27, 2008, to refer the \$10,000 gift from the estate of Dorothy Goodwin to the Finance Committee for review and consideration.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Paulhus suggested the money be used for the playscape at Goodwin. Ms. Koehn suggested an endowment be established in Dorothy Goodwin's name. The Town Manager

asked members to forward their ideas to the Finance Committee.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Haddad reporting for the Personnel Committee stated the group has been working on the Rules of Procedure for the Council and should be able to make recommendation soon. He mentioned that some issues should be discussed at the Council level.

Ms. Duffy, Chair of the Committee on Committees, made the following recommendations:

Board of Ethics – Winthrop Smith, Nora Stevens, David Ferraro and Mike Sikoski. Motion passed unanimously.

Advisory Committee on Persons with Disabilities – Jacqueline Kelleher

Motion passed unanimously.

Parks Advisory – Eric Kruger. Motion passed unanimously

Ms. Duffy reported that on the next agenda the Committee is scheduled to discuss how to better plan for town wide events. The thought is that someone or some committee should have an overall view of what is being planned and when.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Clouette offered his congratulations to all who participated in and organized the Memorial Day event. Mayor Paterson expressed her pleasure at having 2 young people, Amber Hoyt who lost a brother in Iraq and Daniel Parker who will soon be leaving for Iraq, participate in the ceremony.

X. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

(Attached)

The Town Manager reported that An Ordinance Providing a Tax Exemption for Farm Buildings would be brought back to the Council with options for Council direction.

By consensus the Council agreed to hold a special meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to review the Storrs Center status report. Ms. Koehn requested the presentation include detailed marketing information. Mr. Nesbitt requested details on the Dog Lane Building 1A, the time line of the build out and an estimated time frame necessary to realize the \$2.5 million in revenues. Council members again reiterated the need for the Partnership to explain their progress to the public even though the apparent delays are not necessarily their fault. Members discussed the need for careful deliberations as the municipal development plan becomes a development agreement.

## XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

The Town Manager and the Mayor will prioritize the existing list of future agenda items. They will also add gas lines to the list.

## XII. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

7. CCM re: FY 2008-09
8. Chronicle, "\$10M in Funds is Slated for Center Garage" – 5/15/08
9. Chronicle, "Alternate High School Focuses on Choices" – 5/20/08
10. Chronicle, "Auto Referendum Would Avoid Issue" – 5/20/08

Mr. Clouette asked other members what they thought the best way to react to unfair editorials was. Mr. Schaefer suggested factual errors be corrected but that it would be counterproductive to answer opinions in kind.

11. Chronicle, "Chamber Honors Area's Best Businesses" – 5/16/08
12. Chronicle, "Letter to the Editor" – 5/12/08
13. Chronicle, "Letters to the Editor" – 5/13/08
14. Chronicle, "Letter to the Editor" – 5/16/08
15. Chronicle, "Letter to the Editor" – 5/17/08
16. Chronicle, "Letter to the Editor" – 5/22/08
17. Chronicle, "Mansfield Budget OK'd" – 5/14/08
18. Chronicle, "Mansfield Puts EDC Group on Hold for Now" – 5/09/08
19. Chronicle, "Mansfield Voters Need to Act Locally: Get Out and Vote" – 5/12/08
20. Chronicle, "Meeting Could Decide Mansfield Budget" – 5/12/08
21. Chronicle, "Referendum Petition Signatures Invalid" – 5/13/08
22. Chronicle, "Report: Center Need to Get in Shape" – 5/17/08
23. Chronicle, "Track Estimates Peak at \$8 million" – 5/10/08
24. Chronicle, "We Offer These Threads, Needles" – 5/19/08
25. Chronicle, "Willi, Mansfield Groups Get Awards" – 5/8/08
26. Connecticut Main Street Center Announces 2008 Awards of Excellence

27. Ferrigno Realtors re: Municipal Award of Business of the Year
28. M. Hart re: President's Climate Commitment Task Force
29. Hartford Courant, "A New Look to Suburban Planning" – 4/28/08
30. Hartford Courant, "Budget Approved by Voters" – 5/15/08 1
31. Hartford Courant, "Collecting Old Tax Bills" – 5/18/08
32. Hartford Courant, "State Funds Announced for Garage" – 5/15/08
33. Hartford Courant, "What Street Parking Can Do for Downtowns" – 5/18/08
34. M. Hogan re: Storrs Center Parking Garage
35. E. Paterson/M. Hart Letter to D. Merrill re: \$10 Million Urban Action Grant
36. E. Paterson/M. Hart Letter to M. Jodi Rell re: \$10 Million Urban Action Grant
37. E. Paterson/M. Hart Letter to D. Williams re: \$10 Million Urban Action Grant
38. M. Jodi Rell re: \$10 Million for Storrs Town Center Parking Garage
39. Spring Weekend 2008 Thank You Letters
40. State of Connecticut, Connecticut Siting Council re: T-Mobile Notice of Intent to Modify and Existing Telecommunications Facility 191
41. State of Connecticut, Connecticut State Library re: Historic Documents Preservation Grant

### XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Nesbitt seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. Motion was passed by all.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk